

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Applicant's Representative (Marcia Doubet) noted that the Vaschillo reference is not a valid prior art reference under 35 U.S.C. 102 or 103(a). Therefore, the prior art does not teach the claimed features that Vaschillo was alleged to teach. Furthermore, Applicant's arguments presented in the amendment filed 10 April 2009 are deemed persuasive.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications should be directed to the examiner, Mark A. Radtke. The examiner's telephone number is (571) 272-7163, and the examiner can normally be reached between 9 AM and 5 PM, Monday through Friday.

If attempts to contact the examiner are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Neveen Abel-Jalil, can be reached at (571) 272-4074.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to Customer Service at (800) 786-9199.

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/Neveen Abel-Jalil/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2165